

Carbapenem-Resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) Surveillance and Prevention Initiative

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Surveillance for Healthcare-Associated and Resistant Pathogens (SHARP) Unit began a Carbapenem-Resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) Surveillance and Prevention Initiative in September 2012. The Initiative enrolled acute care and long-term acute care facilities throughout the state to voluntarily report cases of CRE. Since then, we have been able to determine statewide incidence rates for CRE which were previously unknown.

To address the increasing threat of CRE in Michigan, MDHHS coordinates resources and expertise by convening a CRE Collaborative group. The CRE Collaborative is comprised of infectious disease physicians, infection preventionists, clinical microbiologists, pharmacists, and long term acute care (LTAC) representatives from various healthcare systems as well as public health officials. The CRE Collaborative monitors incoming data and supports the implementation of best-practice recommendations that can be applied across the healthcare continuum.

Facilities that participate in the initiative submit case information, number of patient-days, and number of admissions every month. Each facility commits to the implementation of a CRE Prevention Plan that is specific to the needs and resources of their facility. Data and CRE Prevention Plan progress is monitored by MDHHS. Facilities share and discuss experiences with each other on quarterly conference calls. MDHHS publishes a monthly newsletter, CRE News, to communicate initiative updates, recent data findings, tips, guidance, and upcoming events.

Objectives of the CRE Surveillance and Prevention Initiative:

- Reduce CRE prevalence/incidence in Michigan
- Identify and support the implementation of best-practice recommendations across the healthcare continuum
- Build regional partnerships within healthcare and public health communities

The CRE Surveillance and Prevention Initiative promotes:

- CRE awareness and education
- Early identification and detection of CRE
- Improving timeliness of patient isolation
- Increasing compliance with contact precautions
- Improving communication within and between healthcare facilities

MDHHS is actively looking for acute care, long term acute care, long term care, and skilled nursing facilities to participate in the CRE Surveillance and Prevention Initiative. **Enrollment begins Fall 2015!**

For more information, please contact Brenda Brennan, MSPH at (517) 335-8889.